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ETHIOPIA

ADDIS ABABA: ERITREAN FRONTS LACK POPULAR SUPPORT

LD222350Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 22 Apr 78 LD/EA

[Text] The treacherous secessionist groups in Eritrea who call themselves Shabiya and Jabha [nicknames for Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front, Eritrean Liberation Front] are disliked and rejected by the inhabitants of the region, because the broad oppressed masses of Eritrea now understand that these groups are waging a war designed to maintain their class interest. They have committed vile atrocities against the broad oppressed masses of Eritrea, who are in no way different from the other oppressed nationalities in the Ethiopian region. They say, among other things: You are Arabs, we will free you. Through the deeds they have committed, they have demonstrated that they are no part of the broad masses.

These treacherous secessionist groups, who claim to stand for the broad oppressed masses of Eritrea, have in fact placed heavy obstacles on the path of the people by destroying hospitals, blocking bridges, railways and roads.

Moreover, they force boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 15 to fight against the revolutionary forces, even threatening them with weapons. They take them off at gunpoint to die like flies. They force parents with three children to keep one and give them two. They force parents with seven children to give them five for the purpose of fighting for your independence, as they put it.

They stuff wads of cottonwool in these children's ears so that they will not be frightened by the whistle of the bullets. They give them hashish and then make them fight, under the influence of drugs, against the revolutionary forces and against the people who stand for the unity and independence of Ethiopia. They then die for a misguided adventure.

A team of journalists which toured the Eritrean region for about 2 weeks has learned that when these youths are shot, the secessionists either behead them or burn their corpses beyond recognition, so that their parents will not find out and cause trouble.

Parents think that their children are alive, while in fact they are dying. The revolutionary forces are forced to collect the corpses of boys and girls whose identity is unknown and bury them with tears and grief.

The treacherous secessionist groups first attacked hospitals when they attacked the towns of Adi Caieh and Massawa in a bid to capture them. These treacherous secessionist groups of Shabiya and Jabha, who claim to be caretakers of the Eritrean oppressed masses and who deceive the broad oppressed masses of Eritrea by saying: We will free you, deliberately shelled the Ati Caieh Hospital, which is the custodian of the health of the broad masses, when they attempted to capture the town on 31 March 1978. While the bandits of the treacherous secessionist groups shelled the hospital, there were more than 200 patients inside the building. The bandits used heavy and [word indistinct] weapons. Seven patients and hospital staff met an inhuman and cruel death.

Referring to the damage caused at the hospital by the bandits, Dr (Mussie) Gebre Michael, director of Adi Caieh Hospital, said that the bandits killed defenseless patients, who were thinking only of their recovery. They indiscriminately shelled the hospital with heavy weapons. He went on to condemn the traitor groups, saying that such acts are condemned and prohibited by international law.

The bandits, who claim to stand for the broad masses, are utter savages and fascists. He condemned the traitor groups for the war they are waging, which reflects their class nature and nothing else. Dr (Mussie) expressed his grief at the fact that the bandits are so inhuman and antipeople as to attempt to destroy the hospital and kill the patients in contravention of all international norms.

SOMALIA

ETHIOPIA ACCUSED OF TRAINING SABOTEURS AGAINST DJIBOUTI

LD251857Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 25 Apr 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Reliable sources have revealed that the Addis Ababa regime is training terrorists to carry out acts of sabotage in the Republic of Djibouti.

Successive regimes in Addis Ababa have always been opposed to the independence of Djibouti. It should be recalled that when the question of Djibouti's independence was brought before the United Nations, Abyssinia was the only country to vehemently oppose the granting of independence to Djibouti, contending that if the French left Djibouti, the Somali Democratic Republic would invade and try to annex it. Abyssinia even went to the extent of massing its forces near Djibouti's border on the pretext of protecting the new republic.

The Somali Democratic Republic has restrained itself in the face of a lot of provocation along the common borders so as to safeguard Djibouti's sovereignty. Recently the president of Djibouti asked Abyssinia to refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of Djibouti as it does not need its protection.

The people of Djibouti know their friends and their enemies and any attempt on the part of Abyssinia to create division and chaos is doomed to failure. It will only serve to strengthen the resolve of the people of Djibouti to maintain their unity and sovereignty.

UGANDA

AMIN CONDOLES WIDOW OF MINISTER KILLED IN ACCIDENT

LD251306Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 25 Apr 78 LD/EA

[Text] Life President Idi Amin has sent a condolence message to the wife of the late Matthew Obado, who has died in a motor accident. He said: I have heard with shock of the tragic and untimely death of your husband, Mr Matthew Obado, in a motor accident. On behalf of myself, the government and the entire people of Uganda, I wish to express to you and other members of your family our bereavement and sadness for the loss of such an eminent Ugandan.

The late Obado had a long and distinguished career in the public service: First in the police force, where he served in various ranks up to that of assistant commissioner, and then, until he was retired in 1976, as minister of transport and communications.

By his death the country has lost a loyal son who, after his public service, was contributing effectively in the economic development of the country through his private business. We pray to the Almighty God to rest his soul in peace and for you and your family's good encouragement and consolation at this time of your great bereavement.

CHAD

FROLINAT THREATENS FRENCH CITIZENS, CALLS FOR STRIKE

PA251723Y Paris AFP in French 1140 GMT 25 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Ndjamena, 25 Apr (AFP)--The people's General Committee of the Chadian National Liberation Front (FROLINAT) in Ndjamena on Tuesday issued a widely-disseminated communique threatening all French civilians and military personnel in Chad and calling for a general strike on Thursday and Friday.

The communique states that all French citizens who are still in Chad, civilians as well as military, must expect an act of vengeance as reprisal for the death of five students in Moussoro in the wake of the strike and the massacre of 14 innocent persons near Salal.

The FROLINAT committee also urges the population--merchants, government and private officials, students and others--to halt all activities on Thursday, 27 April, and Friday, 28 April. The FROLINAT calls on the people to unite for the revolution and declares that it opposes tribalism and sectarianism. It accuses the government of using these as tactics to foster civil war in Chad.

On Tuesday morning it was rumored in Ndjamena that violent demonstrations had taken place on Monday in Moundou, in the district of eastern Logone, in the southern part of the country. French citizens were reportedly beaten during these demonstrations and many stores were looted.

GABON

BONGO ACCUSES LIBYA OF ARMING CHADIAN REBELS

LD211738Y Paris Domestic Service in French 1600 GMT 21 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Omar Bongo, current president of the OAU and president of Gabon, who was President Giscard d'Estaing's luncheon guest today, has accused Libya of arming the Chadian rebels. He also denounced the violation by the Chadian National Liberation Front of the cease-fire concluded with the Chadian Government last month.

SENEGAL

ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE OPENS IN DAKAR

Egyptian Delegate Speaks

NC260634Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2150 GMT 25 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Dakar, 25 April--The Arab Republic of Egypt has reaffirmed that the Palestinian cause is the core of the Middle East conflict and that the Israeli expansionist policy is the cause of the tension in this vital part of the world. The Arab Republic of Egypt has also reaffirmed that there can be no peace in the area without the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and to set up their own state on their land.

This came in a speech delivered tonight before the Islamic Foreign Minister's Conference, which is being held in Dakar, by Dr Muhammad Hafiz Ghanim, deputy prime minister and head of Egypt's delegation.

At the beginning of his speech, Dr Ghanim expressed thanks, in the name of President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat and in the name of the Egyptian people and government, to Senegalese President Senghor and to the people and Government of Senegal for hosting the conference. He also conveyed congratulations, on behalf of President as-Sadat and the people and Government of Egypt, to President Senghor on his reelection as president. Dr Ghanim also underlined the strong ties which exist between Egypt and Senegal.

Dr Ghanim then said: President Anwar as-Sadat has repeatedly and unequivocally declared that there can be no compromise or bargaining and that Israel must withdraw from all the occupied territories, including Jerusalem.

Dr Ghanim said: Egypt launched the glorious Ramadan war for the sake of these principles. It is today waging a battle of peace for the sake of the same principles. Egypt, which does not hesitate to adopt the necessary bold decisions to recover the Arab rights in accordance with the nature of each stage, believes that it can always count on the support of all the Islamic peoples.

Dr Ghanim declared that Egypt strongly condemns Israel's delaying tactics vis-a-vis the implementation of the UN resolutions on the Middle East crisis. It also strongly denounces Israel's occupation of south Lebanon.

Dr Ghanim said: We express deep concern at Israel's continuing violation of the UN Charter, the world declaration on human rights and the fourth Geneva convention on the protection of civilians in time of peace. We urge the various states of the world to shoulder their responsibility in this regard.

Dr Ghanim also strongly condemned racial discrimination, especially in Rhodesia, South Africa, Namibia and Israel. He called on the Islamic states to adopt positive and effective measures at the world antiracial discrimination conference in Geneva to stop all sorts of investments and loans to all countries exercizing racial discrimination, to impose an oil embargo on them to prevent any kind of cooperation with them and to stop air and sea services to them. Dr Ghanim also expressed Egypt's support for the African frontline states in their struggle against the racist regimes.

Dr Ghanim expressed Egypt's support for the mediation efforts undertaken by the quadripartite committee between the Philippines Government and the Moro Liberation Front. He said: President as-Sadat has spelled out our stand on this problem. This stand is represented in the need to achieve an early solution that will safeguard the rights and achieve the legitimate objectives within the framework of the Philippines' national unity.

In his address, Dr Hafiz Ghanim affirmed that Egypt believes that Islamic solidarity has been a basic result of its international relations and that Egypt views this solidarity from a cultural standpoint based on the essence of Islam, which is built on sincere fraternity, amity and cooperation among Moslems without any hatred or enmity.

He said that the Arab Republic of Egypt attaches special importance to the topic of providing food security for the Islamic peoples. He pointed out that the Islamic states possess huge areas of land suitable for cultivation and grazing. He said: On behalf of Egypt, I suggest that the conference agree on the formation of a ministerial committee for the affairs of Islamic cooperation in the field of agriculture. I consider it an honor to invite this committee to meet in Cairo so as to place at its disposal all the resources it requires and to enable it to submit to the next conference meeting a working plan aimed at achieving food security for our peoples, based on accurate calculations and serious economic and technical studies.

Ghanim added: The achievement of self-sufficiency as far as food production in the Islamic states is concerned requires that a forceful discussion be held on the political level at our conference in view of the strategic dimensions of the topic of food security and so that they would not be subjected to political and economic pressures as a result of dependence on foreign sources for our daily food.

Dr Hafiz Ghanim said that Egypt's nomination of Djibouti to membership in the Islamic conference indicates Egypt's assertion of the importance of continued cooperation between the Islamic conference and the OAU. He expressed Egypt's unlimited support for the formation of a Jerusalem fund as well as Egypt's affirmation of the importance of supporting it. He asserted that Egypt will place its human and scientific resources at the service of the fund's objectives.

Dr Ghanim proposed that a committee of economic experts from the Islamic states be formed to study the necessary means for encouraging the establishment of joint economic projects. He said that Egypt would be ready to host the economic experts committee as soon as it is formed. He welcomed the formation of the International Union of Islamic Banks and said that Egypt hopes that the scope of the local Islamic banks will be expanded to benefit the economies of the Islamic societies. He said that Egypt is very interested in supporting and developing the means of cooperation among the Islamic peoples in cultural and social affairs and said that Egypt is ready to work unceasingly in this field.

Meanwhile, a large number of delegation chiefs addressed the conference's evening session. These included the representatives of Iraq, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Guinea and Qatar.

Egypt, PLO Exchange Accusations

NC260629Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2202 GMT 25 Apr 78 NC

[Excerpt] Dakar, 25 April--The address made by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, to the Islamic conference in Dakar this evening has evoked strong resentment on the part of several delegations for its attack on President Anwar as-Sadat and the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Many delegates regretted that this should be the approach of the Palestinian leadership to the struggle for the restoration of usurped Arab lands. They called Qaddumi's address a tragedy, saying that they are here for unity and solidarity. They said that objective study of our issues is the proper way to achieve our objectives and the liberation of our lands, rather than libeling one another.

Taking the floor after Qaddumi, Egypt's chief delegate, Dr Muhammad Hafiz Ghanim, condemned Qaddumi's behavior, saying that it is not proper that President as-Sadat and Egypt should be insulted. Egypt, he recalled, has offered costly sacrifices throughout the past years. President as-Sadat led the glorious October 1973 war and participated in many wars for the liberation of Palestine. Qaddumi has no right to ask the conference to adopt a stand against President as-Sadat.

Qatari Minister's Activities

JN252100Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1958 GMT 25 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Dakar, 25 April--'Ali Ibn Ahmad al-Ansari, minister of labor and social affairs, and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal held a meeting here this evening to discuss the progress of the Islamic Foreign Ministers' Conference and the subjects on which the Arab delegations should concentrate, namely, the Palestinian issue, the liberation of Arab land, support for Islamic solidarity, and backing for Moslem minorities in Cyprus, the Philippines and South Africa. Al-Ansari said that agreement was reached to continue coordination among the Arab delegations so as to adopt unified stands on the topics discussed at the conference.

The Qatari minister of labor and social affairs met in Dakar today with Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak al Khalifah, Jordanian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahin, and head of the PLO Political Department Faruq Qaddumi who are attending the meetings of the Islamic Foreign Ministers' Conference in the Senegalese capital.

MOZAMBIQUE

ZANU LEADER OPTIMISTIC ABOUT FIGHTING

LD251316Y Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 25 Apr 78 LD/EA

[Text] Josiah Tongogara, head of the defense department of the Zimbabwe African National Union [ZANU], one of the components of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, said yesterday that the military situation inside Zimbabwe is (?splendid).

Tongogara told the Voice of Zimbabwe in English to Rhodesia program that over the last 2 months nationalist guerrillas have launched at least one major attack every week. The military leader cited as examples the recent attack at Beitbridge, on the border with South Africa, and an offensive in the Sabi River area south of Umtali.

Referring to the types of military operations carried out by nationalist guerrillas, Josiah Tongogara said that, although political work was being undertaken in the cities, the main war effort continued in the rural areas, where the enemy is weaker and where the majority of the Zimbabwean people are living.

Our order of the day continues to be: Fight toward the cities, the Patriotic Front military leader said.

RHODESIA

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ASKS UK, U.S. TO RECONSIDER POSITION

LD250850Y Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 25 Apr 78 LD/CA

[Text] The following is the text of a message which the Executive Council sent to the British and United States governments this afternoon:

As we undertook to do, we have given careful and mature consideration to the points made by Mr Owen and Mr Vance at the meeting in Salisbury on 17 April and in particular to their proposal to stage an all-party conference. We appreciate the earnest desire of the British and United States governments to assist in achieving a peaceful transition to majority rule in our country through the democratic process of free and fair elections. We do not believe, however, that a conference on the lines suggested would have any more chance of success than the Geneva conference of 1976. It appears to us to be doomed to certain failure.

We therefore urge the two governments to reexamine their policies in the light of the radically changed circumstances in Rhodesia. With the signing of the Salisbury agreement on 3 March and the subsequent replacement of the Rhodesian Front government with the transitional government, an entirely new situation has been created. The objective of the nationalist parties, namely majority rule on the basis of universal suffrage, is enshrined in the Salisbury agreement, the constitutional provisions of which are fully in accord not only with the six principles enunciated by successive British Governments but also with the principles set out in the Anglo-American proposals of September 1977. The agreement is in the process of being implemented and already significant progress has been made. This will be accelerated as the cease-fire arrangements gather momentum.

The members of the Executive Council are united in their determination to proceed as rapidly as possible with the full implementation. They are also united in their resolve not to reopen negotiations on matters which have already been decided as a result of 3 months of hard negotiations involving concessions by all the parties to the agreement.

As we pointed out previously, the leaders of the Patriotic Front were not excluded from the negotiations, they excluded themselves. It was repeatedly made clear that they would be welcome to return and participate, provided they returned in peace. They spurned our offer and reiterated their intention to seize political power by force of arms. From their recent statements it seems clear that they have not changed their stance. But we have not closed the door to them. It remains open provided they undertake to operate peacefully.

We are deeply concerned at the plight of the thousands of our civilians who are being held against their will in camps mainly in Zambia and Mozambique under most unsatisfactory conditions. The great majority were abducted or coerced into leaving the country, and they include large numbers of children who have been forcibly separated from their parents. We urge the British and United States governments to use their good offices with the governments concerned to facilitate the early return of these people, so that they may be rehabilitated and restored to their families and homes.

During our discussions on 17 April, Dr Owen stated that there would be no recognition or lifting of sanctions until after the first elections have been held and a majority rule government installed. Dr Owen stated that only then would the fifth British principle relating to acceptability by the people of Rhodesia be satisfied.

This contrasts with the white paper proposals, in terms of which sanctions would have been lifted as soon as the transitional administration had been established. In that case the principle of acceptability would presumably have been satisfied by the acquiescence of the leaders. Dr Owen's statement, therefore, appears to accord a power of veto to the Patriotic Front, as long as they oppose the Salisbury agreement.

We urge the British and the United States governments to reconsider their positions in this regard. We are satisfied that collectively we have obtained the support of the overwhelming majority of the population for the Salisbury agreement, and we ask that the British and the United States governments should consider putting this to an early test. We are not concerned so much with formal recognition as we are with countering the effects of the world economic recession by an easing of the restrictions on our trade so that we can alleviate unemployment among blacks and proceed to majority rule with a sound and strong economy.

STUDENTS ARRESTED DURING DEMONSTRATION IN SALISBURY

TA250922Y Paris AFP in English 0918 GMT 25 Apr 78 TA

[Excerpt] Salisbury, Apr 25 (AFP)--Police arrested more than 100 black students during a demonstration against the internal settlement agreements in central Salisbury today.

It was the second demonstration by students from the University of Rhodesia against the agreement in 48 hours.

The students gathered in Cecil Square, the capital's main square, in front of the Rhodesian parliament, before unveiling banners denouncing the accord signed here on March 3 by Premier Ian Smith and three internally-based black nationalist leaders.

The banners read "down with the sell-out pseudo-settlement" and attacked the internal nationalists as a "miserable minority of politically power-hungry birds of passage."

A large force of [words indistinct], mainly white riot police, armed with rifles, clubs and shields, swiftly sealed off the square and herded the students into paddy wagons.

SOUTH AFRICA

VORSTER ACCEPTS WEST'S PROPOSALS FOR S-W AFRICA

LD251738Y Johannesburg International Service in English 1600 GMT 26 Apr 78 LD

[Text] South Africa has accepted the latest Western proposals for a settlement in South-West Africa. This has been announced in the House of Assembly in Cape Town by the prime minister, Mr Vorster, who said the five Western powers had been notified of the South African decision. Mr Vorster said he was satisfied that the safety of the people of South-West Africa was not in danger. He emphasized that violence should cease before South African soldiers would be withdrawan. The prime minister said South African policemen would maintain law and order in the territory and Walvis Bay would not become part of the agreement. The leader of the South African opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, and the leader of the New Republic Party, Mr Vause Raw, supported the prime minister's statement.

S-W African Leaders React

PA260055Y Paris AFP in English 0020 GMT 26 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Windhoek, April 26 (AFP)--The South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) reacted with skepticism to yesterday's acceptance by South Africa of Western independence proposals for Namibia (South-West Africa). A SWAPO spokesman said he congratulated South African Prime Minister Vorster on the decision, but if he was serious about elections in the territory, SWAPO members detained without trial should be released to take part in the campaign. Nine SWAPO leaders are held on the orders of South Africa's administrator general, Judge Marthinus Steyn, who accused them of (?encouraging) violence. [Words indistinct] of them were arrested by plain clothes police at the SWAPO headquarters here on Monday while they were having talks with an Australian diplomat. The pro-South African Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA) welcomed the [words indistinct] government's decision, which DTA leader Dirk Mudge called "responsible and wise."

He said he hoped South Africa would continue to enforce strict security in Namibia until the Western plan--drawn up by the five Western members of the United Nations Security Council--had been accepted by all parties.

Gerson Veii, leader of the Namibian National Front, an alliance of "moderate" parties, said yesterday's announcement was the best news he had heard in 30 years. The Rev. Edward Morrow, head of the Anglican Church in Namibia, also welcomed South Africa's assent, but called on Mr. Vorster's government to release detainees.

"We now look forward to SWAPO's acceptance, and I think this will be forthcoming," he said.

At the United National special General Assembly session on Namibia, which opens in New York this week, observers said the South African announcement appeared to have taken SWAPO officials by surprise.

(SWAPO itself has yet to react to the Western proposals, and its leader, Sam Nujoma, yesterday conferred at the U.N. outlined the independence plan to the assembly.)

SWAPO HIJACKS BUS IN SOUTH-WEST AFRICA

LD241300Y Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 24 Apr 78 LD

[Text] A passenger bus carrying about 40 people has been hijacked by SWAPO terrorists in South-West Africa's northern territory of Ovambo. The chief minister of the territory, Pastor Cornelius Ndjoba, who gave details of the incident in an announcement to the Ovambo Legislative Council at (Ongwediva), said the bus had apparently been driven across the border into Angola.

Pastor Ndjoba said the only people of the men, women and children on board the bus who had not been abducted were three elderly passengers, who had been pushed out of the vehicle near the border. He described the kidnaping as an inhuman act and appealed to Western diplomats and to the Angolan Government to take steps in insure that such incidents came to an end.

Further Reportage

LD241710Y Johannesburg International Service in English 1600 GMT 24 Apr 78 LD

[Text] The administrator general of South-West Africa, Mr Justice M.T. Steyn, says the police have established that the passenger bus hijacked by terrorists on the road between Oshakati and Ruacana in Ovambo has crossed the border into Angola. The bus was carrying about 73 passengers when it crossed into Angola. Mr Justice Steyn said the bus was originally carrying about 85 people when it left for Ruacana. About 120 meters northwest of (?Owahakati), 3 armed terrorists wearing uniforms forced the vehicle to stop herding a number of buck across the road in front of it. A group of terrorists, also wearing uniforms, then escorted the bus to the border. Twelve women and children were allowed to disembark on the border.

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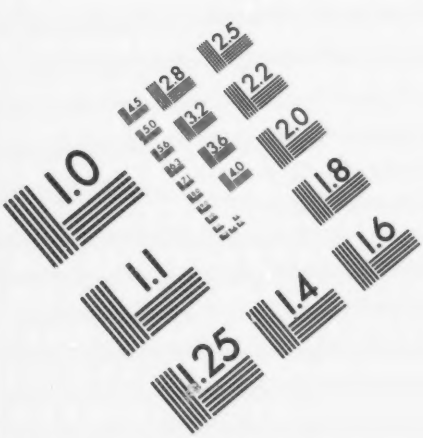

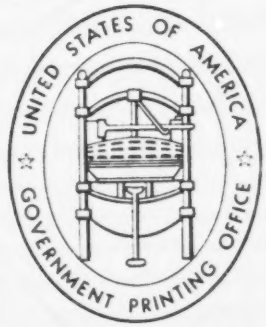

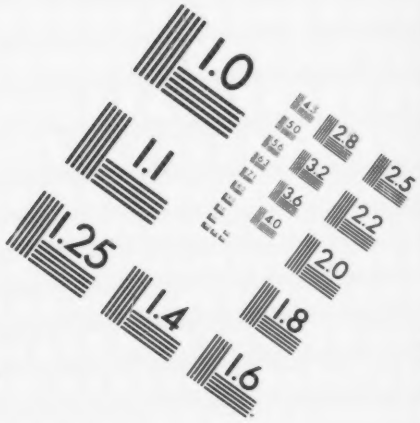

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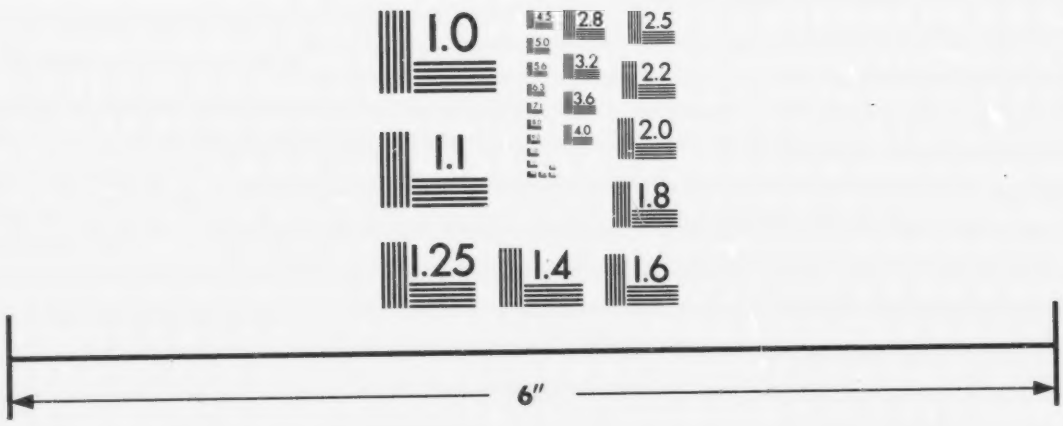

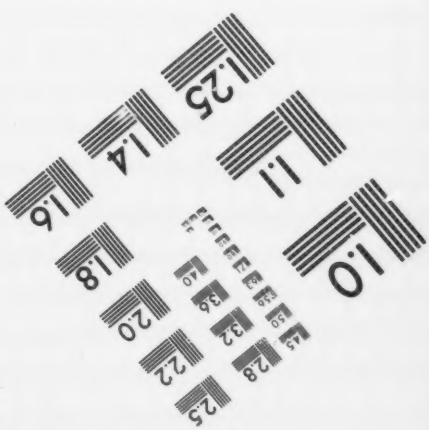

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